

# McCone County

Circle, Montana 59215

Fax (406) 485-2689

2 OCT 2009 10:04

September 30, 2008

**COMMISSIONERS**

Connie Eissinger  
Janet Wolff  
Patrick Eggebrecht  
Box 199  
485-3500

The Honorable Brian Schweitzer  
Governor of Montana  
State Capitol  
P.O. Box 200801  
Helena, MT 59620-0801

**CLERK & RECORDER**

Maridel L. Kassner  
Box 199  
485-3505

RE: Request for Natural Disaster Declaration

**CLERK OF THE COURT**

Trudy Kirkegard  
Box 199  
485-3410

Dear Governor Schweitzer:

**COUNTY ATTORNEY**

Kendall F. Link  
Box 58  
485-3530

On behalf of the agricultural producers and citizens of McCone County, and pursuant to Section 10-3-303, MCA, the Board of Commissioners for McCone County request that you petition the Secretary of Agriculture for a Natural Disaster Declaration (NDD). We have reviewed the natural disaster damage report for the summer of 2008 and wish to submit a late-filed disaster declaration for McCone County.

**JUSTICE OF THE PEACE**

Mary Garfield  
Box 192  
485-3548

Agricultural crop producers harvested crops this year with a much lighter test-weight and fewer bushels than normal; their profit-margin further impacted by the higher costs of fuel, fertilizer, and chemical and the drop in the price per bushel.

**SHERIFF**

Dave I. Harris  
Box 201  
485-3405

Please review the enclosed report detailing the losses to producers.

Thank you for your consideration and assistance in this matter.

**TREASURER /**

**SUPT. OF SCHOOLS**  
Jackie Becker  
Box 180  
485-3590

Sincerely,

**THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
McCONE COUNTY**

*Connie Eissinger*  
Connie Eissinger, Chairman

*Janet Wolff*  
Janet Wolff, Member

*ABSENT*  
Patrick Eggebrecht, Member

cc: USDA, FSA  
McCone County



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Farm  
Service  
Agency

McCone County FSA Ph. (406)485-2744  
104 10<sup>th</sup> St./P O Box 187  
Circle, MT 59215 FAX (406)485-2621

*Commissioners*

**MCCONE COUNTY EMERGENCY BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**July 15, 2008**

**TIME:** 11:00 am  
**PLACE:** USDA Building  
**DATE:** July 15, 2008 – Regular Meeting

**PERSONS PRESENT:** Regan Kirchner, DC, NRCS  
Jonathan Haynie, NRCS  
Ken Nelson, Extension  
Elliot Haynie, COC Chairman, FSA  
David Schumacher, Vice-Chairman, FSA  
Duane White, Regular Member, FSA  
Irene Rathert, Minority Advisor, FSA  
Julie Trower, CED, FSA, Chairman

The Damage Assessment Report (DAR) completion was reviewed as requested by the FSA State Office for submission to the McCone County Commissioners and subsequently to the Governor under a 2008 Natural Disaster Declaration due to drought. DAR as submitted is attached.

The entire county has suffered under drought conditions since November 2007, along with the cool, dry spring, and periods of warm dry weather in April and hot dry weather during July. The hot dry winds in July seared the tender grains and grasses as growth was slowed during the cool dry spring. The county is at 74% of normal precipitation for the last 12 months and 96% for the current year. Temperatures for the current year averaged well below normal through July 1<sup>st</sup>.

The area east of Highway 13 to the North Dakota state line has suffered up to a 90% loss in crops, hay, and grass growth. Small grains on re-crop are poor. Annual hay crops will be 50% of normal. Grass hay and pastures will range from 30-50% of normal. Most producers in the county will see a 50% loss of production. There were severe cutworm infestations early in the growing season. Grasshoppers are beginning to show up with the late hatches due to a cool spring. Some areas are experiencing alfalfa weevils and flea beetle infestations.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Submitted:

Julie Trower, CED, FSA, Chairman